

Fort Cumberland, Global War in the Appalachians: A Resource Guide

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2nd edition

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Events & Context.....	5
Key Players, who's who.....	10
Organizations.....	24
Forces Serving at the Fort.....	26
Timeline of Fort Cumberland.....	30
Construction of the Fort.....	31
After the Braddock expedition.....	34
What Remains.....	35
Forts associated with Fort Cumberland.....	35
Existing frontier forts similar to Fort Cumberland.....	37
The Other Forts Cumberland.....	41
Selected Bibliography and Resources.....	42

Cover Image: Post Card of Fort Cumberland by Neff Novelty Company, Cumberland, MD,
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Introduction

In 1755, Fort Cumberland was at the cusp of three empires: the British, the French, and the Iroquois. It was the westernmost outpost of the British Empire in North America. Built at the confluence of Will's Creek and the Potomac River by Virginia, North Carolina, and Maryland Militia, it was named *Mount Pleasant*, but renamed *Cumberland* by General Braddock. The Duke of Cumberland was his superior in the British Army. The Fort became untenable after the Braddock expedition defeat, and the western boundary of the British Empire was pulled back to the safety of Fort Frederick. West of the fort was disputed territory, and New France. The Native American peoples wanted both the French and the British to leave. They began to organize into federations of tribes to better deal with the invaders from across the seas. Fort Cumberland was attacked by Native American forces, but relieved by militia. It was used as a logistics base for the second (and successful) campaign against Fort Duquesne, from Fort Ligonier. It saw no action in the Revolutionary War, but served as the staging area for troops deployed under Washington in the Whiskey Rebellion in Western Pennsylvania. This was the first, and to date, only situation where an American President commanded troops in the field.

Information is scarce on Fort Cumberland. Many of the earlier works are out-of-print, and new material is slowly forthcoming. This effort attempts to collect together a set of known references (and their locations) for further research, and to put the fort in the context of its time. There is not necessarily enough new material for a new book on the topic, but it is hoped that this extensive list of references will assist other researchers. New sources in electronic form are being uncovered all the time.

The City of Cumberland was incorporated in Maryland in 1787. Maps as late as 1800 show the location as "Fort Cumberland." The area of the confluence of Wills Creek and the Potomac was originally in Maryland's Prince Georges County, then Frederick County (1748), Washington County (1776), and Allegany County (1789) where it now serves as the county seat.

The Fort Cumberland site is now occupied by the Gothic-style Emmanuel Episcopal Church, built in 1850. The fort's area stretched across the current location of the Masonic Temple, and westward to Prospect Square, the site of the Allegany County Court House (1893-94), and the Allegany County main library (built in 1849 as the Allegany Academy). Just west of the church is the Millholland House, serving now as the parish office. It was built for James Millholland, around 1870, President of the Georges Creek and Cumberland Railroad. A well on the property belonged to the Fort. West of the Fort, and outside of the stockade, was the military cemetery, near Plum Alley, between Cumberland and Fayette Streets. When the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad built their "Big Cut" around 1850 to extend the railroad south and west, the cemetery was uncovered, and the remains were moved to Rose Hill Cemetery, under the auspices of the Emmanuel Parish. No names were recorded. A large number of British military and Colonial Militia are also buried there, as well as Civil War veterans of both sides, and Millholland and his family.

Causality Lists are in the Cumberland Papers at Windsor Castle. The surgeons mentioned that many of the fatalities were caused by "friendly fire." This observation was due to the fact that

caliber of the ammunition removed; the French and their Native American allies used a lighter musket with a smaller ball.

This guide contains summary information on people, places, and events of interest, but its main value will be its list of references, necessarily not complete. Surprisingly, new material on Fort Cumberland still appears now and then.

Author

The author grew up in Cumberland, MD, across the street from the location of Fort Cumberland. He walked by it twice a day for his 8 years of elementary school, and decided to learn more about its history and reason for being.

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This second edition is expanded, and includes new material and references. Errors and typos were corrected. Certain sections were expanded, and new information has been included. The author may be contacted at: pstakem@gmail.com

Events & Context

This section discusses the broader context of what was happening in the world during the time frame of the construction of Fort Cumberland.

The Seven Years War 1754-63

The French and Indian War is the common American name for the war between England and France in North America from 1754 to 1763. In 1756, the war erupted into the world-wide conflict known as the Seven Years' War. The French and Indian War came to be regarded as the North American Theater of that war.

The war was fought primarily along the frontiers between the British colonies from Virginia to Nova Scotia, and began with a dispute over the territory at the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, the site of present-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The dispute resulted in the Battle of Jumonville Glen in May 1754. British attempts at expeditions in the frontier areas of Pennsylvania all failed, due to a combination of poor management, internal divisions, and effective French and Indian offense. The Braddock Expedition is an example.

The outcome was one of the most significant developments in a century of Anglo-French conflict. France ceded Louisiana west of the Mississippi River to its ally Spain in compensation for Spain's loss of Florida to England. France's colonial presence north of the Caribbean was reduced to two small islands. Britain was now the dominant colonial power in the eastern half of North America.

The French expedition force under Céloron consisted of about 200 Troupes de la marine and 30 Native Americans. The Troupes de la marine were independent companies of the navy and colonial regulars. The expedition covered about 3,000 miles between June and November 1749. It went up the St. Lawrence, continued along the northern shore of Lake Ontario, crossed the portage at Niagara, and then followed the southern shore of Lake Erie. At the Chautauqua Portage (near present-day Barcelona, New York), the expedition moved inland to the Allegheny River, which it followed to the site of present-day Pittsburgh, where Céloron buried lead plates engraved with the French claim to the Ohio Country. Whenever he encountered British merchants or fur-traders, Céloron informed them of the French claims on the territory and told them to leave.

When Céloron's expedition arrived at Logstown, the Native Americans in the area informed Céloron that they owned the Ohio Country and that they would trade with the British regardless of what the French told them to do. Céloron continued south until his expedition reached the confluence of the Ohio River and the Miami River, which lay just south of the village of Pickawillany, the home of the Miami chief known as "Old Briton". Céloron informed Old Briton that there would be dire consequences if they continued to trade with the British. The Chief ignored the warning.

In his report, Céloron wrote, "All I can say is that the Natives of these localities are very badly disposed towards the French, and are entirely devoted to the English. I don't know in what way

they could be brought back." Even before his return to Montreal, reports on the situation in the Ohio Country were making their way to London and Paris, proposing that action be taken.

In 1747 the Ohio Company was established for the purpose developing trade and settlements in the Ohio Country. The company received a grant from King George II in 1749 that included requirements that it settle 100 families in the territory, and construct a fort for their protection. The territory was also claimed by Pennsylvania, and both colonies began pushing for action to improve their respective claims. In 1750 Christopher Gist, acting on behalf of both Virginia and the company, explored the Ohio territory and opened negotiations with the Native American tribes at Logstown. This beginning resulted in the 1752 Treaty of Logstown, in which the local Native Americans, through their "Half-King" Tanacharison and an Iroquois representative, agreed to terms that included permission to build a "strong house" at the mouth of the Monongahela River (the site of present-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania).

In 1752, the Governor-General of New France, Marquis de la Jonquière died, and was temporarily replaced by Charles le Moyne de Longueuil. It was not until July 1752 that his permanent replacement, the Marquis Duquesne, arrived to assume the post. The continuing British activity in the Ohio territories prompted Longueuil to dispatch another expedition to the area under the command of Charles Michel de Langlade, an officer in the *Troupes de la Marine*. Langlade was given 300 men comprised of Ottawa and French-Canadians. His objective was to punish the Miami people of Pickawillany for not following Céloron's orders to cease trading with the British. On June 21, the French war party attacked the trading center at Pickawillany, killing 14 people of the Miami nation. Things were beginning to heat up.

Governor Robert Dinwiddie of Virginia found himself in a predicament. He was one of the investors in the Ohio Company, which stood to lose money if the French held their claim. To counter the French military presence in Ohio, in October 1753 Dinwiddie ordered the 21-year-old Major George Washington of the Virginia militia to warn the French to leave Virginia territory.

Dinwiddie, even before Washington returned, sent a group of 40 men under William Trent to the Forks of the Ohio, where in the early months of 1754 they began construction of a small stockade fort. Governor Duquesne sent additional French forces under Claude-Pierre Pécary to relieve Saint-Pierre during the same period, and Pécary led 500 men south from Fort Venango on April 5, 1754. When these arrived at the forks, Pécary generously allowed Trent's small outnumbered company to withdraw, after purchasing their construction tools to continue building what became Fort Duquesne.

After Washington returned to Williamsburg with his report, Dinwiddie ordered him to lead a larger force to assist Trent in his work. While en route, Washington learned of Trent's retreat. Since Tanacharison had promised him support, he continued toward Fort Duquesne, and met with the Mingo leader. Learning of a French scouting party in the area, Washington took some of his men and Native Americans, and surprised the French on May 28. Many of the French were slain, among them their commanding officer, Joseph Coulon de Jumonville.

Following the battle, Washington pulled back several miles and hastily built Fort Necessity, which the French then attacked on July 3. The engagement led to Washington's surrender; he

negotiated a withdrawal under arms. One of Washington's men reported that the French force was accompanied by Shawnee, Delaware, and Mingo warriors.

When news of the battles reached England in August, the government of the Duke of Newcastle decided to send an army expedition the following year to dislodge the French. Major General Edward Braddock was chosen to lead the expedition. Word of the British military plans leaked to France well before Braddock's departure for North America, and King Louis XV dispatched six regiments to New France .

Braddock led about 2,000 regular troops and provincial militia on the expedition in June 1755 to take Fort Duquesne, using the recently constructed Fort Cumberland as the jumping-off point. The expedition was a military disaster and Braddock was mortally wounded, and many of his men were killed.

The Forbes Expedition was a British campaign in 1758, with 6,000 troops led by General John Forbes to finally drive the French out of the contested Ohio Country. After a British advance party was repulsed on Sept. 14, the French withdrew from Fort Duquesne, leaving the British in control of the Ohio River Valley.

The Seven Years' War nearly doubled Britain's national debt. The Crown, seeking sources of revenue to pay off the debt, attempted to impose new taxes on its colonies. These attempts were met with increasingly stiff resistance, until troops were called in so that representatives of the Crown could safely perform their duties. These acts ultimately led to the American Revolution.

For France however, the military defeat and the financial burden of the war weakened the monarchy and contributed to the the French Revolution in 1789.

The Braddock Expedition

The Braddock Expedition was the reason Fort Cumberland was built. It was the jumping off point for the expedition against Fort Duquesne, and guarded the westernmost border of the British Empire in North America. After their defeat at the Battle of the Monongahela, the survivors retreated back to Fort Cumberland.

The Royal Navy provided logistics support for the Braddock Expedition, bringing troops and supplies from Ireland and England to the Port of Alexandria in the Colony of Virginia. Further supplies were provided by the Colonies.

The 44th and 48th Regiments of Foot sailed from Cove, near Cork, Ireland, in early 1755. The voyage lasted from February 20, 1755 to March 10. Braddock and his senior staff had sailed from England the previous December 21, to Hampton Roads, then up the Chesapeake Bay to Alexandria, Colony of Virginia.. He went on the the *Norwich*, in convoy with the flagship of Admiral Keppel, the *Centurion*, and the warship *Gibraltar*. The 'Gib mounted 20 guns, and the others had 50 each.

The troop transports were contract ships, hired by the Navy Board. Each could hold about 100 men. The ships were the *Anna*, *Halifax*, *Osgood*, *Industry*, *Isabel* and *Mary*, *Terrible*, *Fame*,

Concord, Prince Frederick, Fishburn, Molly, and Severn. The *London* was the assigned transport for the Medical Officers, headed by James Napier. The Ordnance ships *Whiting, Newall, and Nelly* carried the Royal Artillery detachment, under Captain Ord with 60 men, 13 artillery wagons, 17 wagons for ammunition, six brass six-pounders, four brass twelve-pounders, four brass 8" howitzers, and 6 Coehorn mortars. A Medical stores ship, the *Neptune*, sailed from England. The expedition was escorted by the warships *Seahorse* and *Nightingale*, and followed three weeks after Braddock set sail.

Braddock's command consisted of the two regular line regiments, the 44th and 48th with about 1,350 men, about 500 regular soldiers and militiamen from several British American colonies, and artillery and other support troops. With these men Braddock expected to seize Fort Duquesne easily, and then push on to capture a series of French forts, eventually reaching Fort Niagara. George Washington, then just 23, knew the territory and served as a volunteer aide-de-camp to Braddock. Braddock's Chief of Scouts was Lieutenant John Fraser of the Virginia Regiment, who owned land at Turtle Creek near Fort Duquesne.

Braddock's attempt to recruit Native American allies proved mostly unsuccessful. He did have eight Mingo Native Americans serving as scouts. A number of other Native Americans in the area remained neutral, waiting to see who won the conflict. Caught between two powerful European empires at war, the local Native Americans could not afford to be on the side of the loser. They became adept at playing the sides off against each other.

Braddock's forces were reinforced with Royal Navy personnel and four additional 12-pounder ships' cannon from the *Norwich*, with gun carriages were built in Alexandria. The Royal Navy detachment of 30 sailors and 2 midshipmen from the *Norwich* were under the command of Navy Lt. Spendlow.

Setting out from Fort Cumberland in Maryland on May 29, 1755, the expedition faced an enormous logistical challenge: moving a large body of men with equipment, provisions, and siege cannon, across the densely wooded Allegheny Mountains and into western Pennsylvania, a journey of about 110 miles. Braddock had received important assistance from Benjamin Franklin, of the Pennsylvania Colony, who helped procure wagons and supplies for the expedition. Among the wagoners were two young men who would later become legends of American history: Daniel Boone and Daniel Morgan. Other members of the expedition included Ensign William Crawford and Charles Scott. Among the British were Thomas Gage; Charles Lee, and Horatio Gates, all of whom would play a role in the American Revolution.

On June 6, Braddock appointed Colonel Innes the Governor of Fort Cumberland. By June 10, all of the expedition troops had moved out.

The expedition progressed slowly because Braddock considered making a road to Fort Duquesne a priority (in order to effectively supply the position he expected to capture and hold at the Forks of the Ohio), and largely due to a shortage of healthy draft animals. In some cases, the column was only able to progress at a rate of two miles a day, creating Braddock's Road as they went. To speed up movement, Braddock split his men into a "flying column" of about 1,300 men which he commanded and a supply column of 800 men with most of the baggage commanded by Colonel Thomas Dunbar. Dunbar's command lagged far behind. They passed the ruins of Fort Necessity

along the way, where the French had defeated Washington the previous summer. Small French and Native American war bands harried Braddock's men during the march, but these were minor skirmishes.

Meanwhile, at Fort Duquesne, the French garrison consisted of about 250 regulars and Canadian militia, with about 640 Native American allies camped outside the fort. The Native Americans were from a variety of tribes associated with the French, including Ottawas, Ojibwas, and Potawatomis. Claude-Pierre Pécaudy de Contrecoeur, the French commander of the fort, received reports from Native American scouting parties that the British were on their way to besiege the fort. He realized that his fort could not withstand Braddock's cannon, and decided to launch a preemptive strike, an ambush of Braddock's army as he crossed the Monongahela River. The Native American allies were initially reluctant to attack such a large British force, but the French troop commander Daniel Liénard de Beaujeu, who dressed himself in full Native American war regalia complete with war paint, convinced them to follow his lead.

By July 8, 1755, the Braddock force was at the land owned by his Chief Scout, Lieutenant John Fraser. That evening, the French-aligned Native Americans sent a delegation to the British to request a conference. Braddock sent Washington and Fraser. The Native Americans asked the British to halt their advance so that they could attempt to negotiate a peaceful withdrawal by the French from Fort Duquesne. Both Washington and Fraser recommended this to Braddock but he decided against this.

On July 9, 1755, Braddock's men crossed the Monongahela without opposition, about 10 miles south of Fort Duquesne. The advance guard of 300 grenadiers and colonial troops with two cannon. Troops under Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gage began to move ahead. They unexpectedly collided with the French and Native Americans, who were hurrying to the river, too late to set an ambush.

In the skirmish that followed, Beaujeu, was killed by the first volley of musket fire by the grenadiers. Although some 100 French Canadians fled back to the fort and the noise of the cannon held the Native Americans off, Beaujeu's death did not have a negative effect on French morale; 2nd in Command Dumas rallied the rest of the French and their Native American allies. The battle, known as the Battle of the Monongahela had officially begun. Braddock's force was approximately 1,300 men. The British faced a French and Native American force estimated to number between 300 and 900. The two forces clashed at an unexpected time and place. The quick and effective response of the French and Native Americans, despite the early loss of their commander, led many of Braddock's men to believe they had been ambushed. However, French documents reveal that the French and Native American force was too late to prepare an ambush, and had been just as surprised as the British.

After an initial exchange of fire, Gage's advance group fell back. In the narrow confines of the road, they collided with the main body of Braddock's force, which had advanced rapidly when the shots were heard. The entire column fell apart in disorder as the Canadian militiamen and Native Americans enveloped them and continued to fire at the British flanks from the woods on either side of the road. At this time, the French regulars began advancing down the road and began to push the British back.

Following Braddock's example, the officers kept trying to reform units into regular order within the confines of the road, mostly in vain and simply providing convenient targets for their concealed enemy. Cannon were used, but in the confines of the forest road, they were ineffective. The colonial militia accompanying the British took cover and returned fire. In the confusion, some of the militiamen who were fighting from the woods were mistaken for the enemy and fired upon by the British regulars.

After several hours of intense combat, Braddock was shot off his horse, and British resolve collapsed. Colonel Washington, although he had no official position in the chain of command, was able to impose and maintain order and formed a rear guard, which allowed the remnants of the force to disengage. This earned him the title *Hero of the Monongahela*.

"We marched to that place, without any considerable loss, having only now and then a straggler picked up by the French and scouting Native Americans. When we came there, we were attacked by a party of French and Native Americans, whose number, I am persuaded, did not exceed three hundred men; while ours consisted of about one thousand three hundred well-armed troops, chiefly regular soldiers, who were struck with such a panic that they behaved with more cowardice than it is possible to conceive. The officers behaved gallantly, in order to encourage their men, for which they suffered greatly, there being near sixty killed and wounded; a large proportion of the number we had."

By sunset, the surviving British and Colonial forces were fleeing back down the road they had built. Braddock died of his wounds during the long retreat, on July 13, and was buried in the road, his grave obscured.

Of the approximately 1,300 men Braddock had led into battle, 456 were killed and 422 wounded. Commissioned officers were prime targets and suffered disproportionately. Out of 86 officers, 26 were killed and 37 wounded. Of the 50 or so women that accompanied the British column as maids and cooks, only 4 survived. The French and Canadians reported 8 killed and 4 wounded; their Native American allies lost 15 killed and 12 wounded. This was a disaster for the British.

Colonel Dunbar, with the reserves and rear supply units, took command when the survivors reached his position. He ordered the destruction of supplies and cannon before withdrawing, burning about 150 wagons on the spot. Ironically, at this point the defeated, demoralized and disorganized British forces still outnumbered their opponents. The French and Native Americans did not pursue and were engaged with looting and scalping. Dumas realized the British were utterly defeated and he didn't have enough of a force to continue an organized pursuit. Dunbar returned to Fort Cumberland, and then left for Philadelphia.

Key Players, who's who.

This section identifies key individuals and organizations that played a role in the construction and use of Fort Cumberland. There were quite a few interesting individuals involved, who would later become famous in many areas. These brief descriptions do not do them justice. These are presented in alphabetical order. All of their stories came together at the Forks of the Ohio.

John Adair

Adair was Surgeon to the Staff on Braddock's Expedition. "Master Surgeon in Hospitals in North America" (per War Office Papers); Dec 25 1757 – June 24, 1758. He later served in Wolfe's expedition against Quebec. In the Arm list of 1755, he is mentioned as Surgeon of Hospitals in North America, and in War Office papers as Master Surgeon in hospitals in North America.

Daniel-Hyacinthe-Marie Liénard de Beaujeu

He lead the combined French Regular, Canadian Militia, and Native America attack on Braddock's forces. He was killed early in the battle.

Daniel Boone

Daniel Boone was an American pioneer, explorer, and frontiersman whose frontier exploits made him one of the first folk heroes of the United States. Boone is most famous for his exploration and settlement of what is now the Commonwealth of Kentucky, which was then beyond the western borders of the settled part of the Thirteen Colonies. This region belonged to both the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Native American Tribes. Boone founded the village of Boonesborough, Kentucky, one of the first English-speaking settlements west of the Appalachians.

Daniel Boone was of English and Welsh descent. His family belonged to the Religious Society of Friends, "Quakers." His father, Squire Boone, emigrated from the small town of Bradninch, Devon, UK to Penns Colony in America in 1713. The Boones eventually settled on the Yadkin River, in what is now North Carolina.

As a young man, Boone was a wagon driver for General Edward Braddock's expedition. He returned home after the defeat. He later served as a militia officer during the Revolutionary War.

Abrahma Bosomworth

He was originally an ensign in Oglethorpe's Regiment from the Georgia Colony. He was dispatched on a mission to the Creek Indians, and later became a Indian Agent. He was a correspondent with Washington.

Edward Braddock

General Edward Braddock was British Commander-in-Chief for North America during the start of the French and Indian War.

Braddock was born in Perthshire, Scotland, around 1695. He was commissioned into the Coldstream Guards in 1710. In 1747, as a Lieutenant Colonel, he served under the Prince of Orange in Holland. In 1753 he was given the colonelcy of the 14th Prince of Wales Own Regiment of Foot (the West Yorkshire Regiment), and in 1754 he became a major-general.

Appointed shortly afterwards to command against the French in America, he landed in Virginia on 20 February 1755 with two regiments of British regulars. He met with colonial governors at the Congress of Alexandria and was persuaded to undertake vigorous actions against the French and their Native American allies.

After some months of preparation, in which he was hampered by administrative confusion and lack of resources previously promised by the colonists, the Braddock expedition began the march to the west. The jumping off point for the expedition was the recently constructed Fort Cumberland. The Expedition did not go as planned.

In 1804, human remains believed to be Braddock's were found buried in the roadway about 1.5 miles west of Great Meadows by a crew of road workers. The remains were exhumed and reburied. A marble monument was erected over the new grave site in 1913 by the Coldstream Guards. The grave site is considered to be British territory.

Joseph Chapline

Chapline was a friend of Governor Sharpe of the Maryland Colony, member of the Ohio Company, and commanded Maryland Militia at Fort Cumberland during construction. He later founded Sharpesburg, Maryland.

Thomas Cresap

Colonel Thomas Cresap was an English-born pioneer settler in the colony of Maryland, and an agent of Lord Baltimore. Due to the Maryland-Pennsylvania border disagreement, he was considered a wanted criminal in Pennsylvania. Subsequent to the settlement of Cresap's War by an edict of King George II, Cresap founded Oldtown, Maryland, by building a trading post along a Native American trail.

Cresap was born in Skipton, Yorkshire, England, and came to Maryland when he was fifteen. In 1723 he listed his occupation as carpenter. He settled at the mouth of the Susquehanna River on the Chesapeake, where he engaged in boat-building. Cresap later operated a ferry over the Susquehanna at the head of tide-water.

In 1739, Cresap was granted 400 acres, which he named *Long Meadows*. He erected a stone and log fort over a spring near the March Run. Cresap moved farther west to within two miles of present day Cumberland, Maryland, where he again embarked in the Native American trade until the beginning of the French and Indian War.

Cresap received a large land grant from the Ohio Country in what is now West Virginia. He was employed as commander of an expedition in 1748-1750 along with the Delaware Chief Nemacolin to begin widening the Nemacolin Trail into a road that could handle freight wagons.

In 1753, he was asked by the Ohio Company to repair the Company storehouse at Will's Creek. For this, he supplied plank from his sawmill near Oldtown.

Cresap fought a number of skirmishes with the Native Americans. He was elected a representative from Frederick County, Maryland, to the Maryland legislature. When the French and their allies attempted to seize the territory west of the Alleghany Mountains from the English, Cresap and his sons, at their own expense, raised two companies of volunteers. Cresap was the purchasing agent for Maryland Forces at Fort Cumberland.

Cresap's War was a Maryland-Pennsylvania border conflict, involving troops from both Colonies. Eventually, King George brokered a cease-fire. The border disagreement between Maryland and Pennsylvania was later resolved in 1767 by a pair of surveyors, Mason and Dixon, sent by the King. During *Cresap's War*, his wife, Hannah Johnson, frequently rode with the militia, carrying a sword.

Michael Cresap was held in esteem by his neighbors. He was the first person in Maryland to raise a company of volunteer riflemen in the Revolution. He marched at their head to Boston in 1775, where he fought with great bravery. He became ill and was compelled to return to New York City, where he died and is buried in Trinity Church Cemetery.

George Croghan

George Croghan was a Pennsylvania fur trader, Onondaga Council sachem, land speculator, British Indian agent in Colonial America and, until falsely accused of treason in 1777, Pittsburgh's resident judge and Committee of Safety Chairman. In 1771 he established Vandalia, a fourteenth colony, and continuing in his role as a peacemaker on the Frontier. He was the Ohio Country's key figure for thirty years, twenty-five years before the Revolution.

Croghan was born in Ireland, about 1718. He emigrated in 1741. Within a few years after arriving in British America, he became one of Pennsylvania's leading fur traders. A key to his success was that he established trading posts in Native American villages, as was the custom with French traders, rather than wait for Native American customers to come to him, which was the usual British practice. He learned at least two Native languages, Delaware and Mohawk.

Croghan's primary business partner was William Trent, a trader and son of the founder of Trenton, New Jersey. Their partnership was temporarily suspended when Trent joined the military to serve in King George's War (1744–48). The two men bought property on Conedogwinet Creek in Pennsborough Township. Croghan built a plantation there, which served as his home and base of operations from about 1745 until 1751.

At the outset of the French and Indian War, French forces were occupying the Ohio Country and expelling or arresting British fur traders. Soon after Washington returned from delivering Virginia Governor Dinwiddie's demands to the French, Croghan was in Ohio Country gathering intelligence, helping build the Ohio Company stockade commanded by William Trent, and supplying the Native Americans with food. He and Montour were in Winchester (Virginia) at the end of May when Governor Dinwiddie commissioned them captains under Col. Washington, with Croghan in charge of flour supply and Native American allies. By that time the French had captured the Ohio Company fort at the Forks of the Ohio, surrendered by Croghan's half-brother Edward Ward, and Jumonville had just been murdered by the Half King. Washington alienated his Native American allies and blamed Croghan for his defeat at Fort Necessity.

During the ill-fated Braddock Expedition in 1755, Croghan, again assisted by Captain Montour, led eight Native American scouts, the same group led by the Half King at Jumonville Glen. Like Washington, General Braddock alienated friendly Native Americans, yet Montour and the eight under Croghan attended the gravely wounded General while teamsters Daniel Boone and Daniel Morgan fled on horseback. Croghan pressed Braddock to relinquish command and when he would not, apparently took charge, taking Braddock off the battlefield assisted by Braddock's twenty-three year old aide, Washington. Washington's account differs by implication and biographer James Flexner does not mention Croghan being present.

Prince William, Duke of Cumberland

Prince William (William Augustus 1721 –1765), was a younger son of George II and Caroline of Ansbach, and Duke of Cumberland from 1726. He is generally best remembered for his role in putting down the Jacobite Rising at the Battle of Culloden in Scotland in 1746. For this, he is known as "Butcher" Cumberland. After the battle, he went on to a largely unsuccessful military career. After 1757, he never held active military command. He switched his attentions to politics and horse-racing. He was Braddock's Superior, and Braddock chose to name the Fort at Will's Creek and the Potomac in his honor. Never hurts to impress the boss.

Captain John Dagworthy

Captain John Dagworthy was a Maryland soldier holding a royal commission. In 1756 at Wills Creek (Fort Cumberland), Dagworthy refused to take orders from Colonel George Washington since Washington's commission was an appointment from Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia and therefore inferior to Dagworthy's rank. In an effort to settle the dispute, Washington asked Governor Dinwiddie to adjudicate the argument. Dinwiddie refused; he said Fort Cumberland was in Maryland and therefore out of his jurisdiction. Washington, along with Captains George Mercer and Robert Stewart, rode to Boston to get approval from Governor Shirley; the ranking British authority in North America. Washington had previously been rebuked on the royal commission vs. militia commission back at Fort Necessity with Captain Mackay from South Carolina. Colonel Stanwix in June 1757 wrote "the reason for my moving is the hearing of intelligence from Capt. Dagworthy, who commands at Fort Cumberland." Some sources cite the date of Dagworthy's royal commission as 1758.

A letter from General Forbes to Lieutenant Colonel Bouquet dated August 28, 1758 reads, "Governor Sharp (Maryland) asked me to allow him to make Captain Dagworthy a Lt. Col. He led a troop of fifty Maryland Rangers as part of Sir Peter Halket's 1st Brigade, as listed in Braddock's Orderly Books.

Dagworthy served with distinction in the French and Indian War, but when the Revolutionary War came, George Washington failed to give him an important field assignment. The Continental Congress appointed Dagworthy as a brigadier general and gave him command of the Sussex County (MD) Militia.

Francis Deakins

Deakins, with the help of 10 surveyors, drew up a general plot of the Colony of Maryland west of Fort Cumberland on which 4165 lots of fifty acres each were laid out. These were granted to colonial soldiers for their service in the Revolutionary War.

Governor Robert Dinwiddie

Robert Dinwiddie (1693 – 1770) was a British colonial administrator who served as lieutenant governor of colonial Virginia from 1751 to 1758. Since the governors at that time were largely absentee, he was the de-facto head of the colony for much of the time.

Dinwiddie's actions as lieutenant governor are commonly cited as precipitating the French and Indian War. He wanted to limit French expansion in Ohio Country, an area claimed by the Virginia Colony and in which the Ohio Company, of which he was a stockholder, had made preliminary surveys and settlements.

In 1753, Dinwiddie learned the French had built Fort Presque Isle near Lake Erie and Fort Le Boeuf, which he saw as threatening Virginia's interests in the Ohio Valley. He sent an eight-man expedition under George Washington to warn the French to withdraw. Washington, then only 21 years old, made the journey in midwinter of 1753-54. The French refusal to withdraw set the stage for the events that took place at Fort Necessity, and later, Fort Duquesne.

In January 1754, even before learning of the French refusal, Dinwiddie sent a small force of Virginia militia to build a fort at the forks of the Ohio River, where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers merge to form the Ohio. The French quickly drove off the Virginians and built a larger fort on the site, calling it Fort Duquesne, in honor of the Marquis de Duquesne, who had recently become governor of New France.

In early spring 1754, Dinwiddie sent Washington to build a road to the Monongahela and to then help defend the British fort. Learning that the French had taken the fort, Washington pressed on. At a spot then called "Great Meadows", by the Youghiogheny River, eleven miles southeast of present-day Uniontown, PA., he encountered the French. A skirmish ensued on July 3, 1754, and Washington was forced to surrender. Dinwiddie was subsequently active in rallying other colonies in defense against France and ultimately prevailed upon the British to send two regiments of regular troops.

Jean-Daniel Dumas

Dumas had served in the War of Austrian Succession in Bavaria, Italy, and Provence. Three years later, he was in New France. He had a reputation as a skillful negotiator with the Native Americans, and was posted to Fort Duquesne in 1754 as a Captain. He took over the attack on Braddock's troops when his commander, Beaujeu was killed, early in the battle. Later, he would be named Mayor of Quebec. He led a raid against the British in the siege of Quebec, and later blocked the British advance to Montreal.

Marquis de Duquesne

Michel-Ange Du Quesne de Menneville was Governor General of New France, the Kings representative, from 1752-1755. The French fort at the Forks of the Ohio (Pittsburg) was named for him.

Tom Faucett (Fawcett)

In some accounts, Faucett was the one who shot Braddock during the battle near Fort Duquesne, for mistreating his brother.

Benjamin Franklin

In 1756, Franklin organized the Pennsylvania Militia (Associated Regiment of Philadelphia) under the heading of Pennsylvania's 103rd Artillery and 111th Infantry Regiment, Continental Army. He used the Tun Tavern as a gathering place to recruit a regiment of soldiers to go into battle against the Native American uprisings that terrorized the Western frontier of Pennsylvania. Reportedly Franklin was asked to be the Colonel of the Associated Regiment but declined.

Benjamin Franklin's Autobiography includes an account of helping General Braddock gather supplies and carriages for the general's troops. Wagons and horse teams were badly needed. He also describes a conversation with Braddock in which he explicitly warned the General that his plan to march troops to the fort through a narrow valley would be dangerous because of the possibility of an ambush.

John Fraser

Fraser, a fur trader and gunsmith, was born in Scotland. He served in the Virginia Militia's Chief Scout to Braddock, and Chief Teamster of the later Forbes Expedition against Fort Duquesne.

Joseph Fry

Fry commanded militia troops at Fort Cumberland. He was replaced by Innes, after he was killed by a fall from his horse.

Horatio Gates

In 1745, Horatio Gates obtained a British military commission. He served with the 20th Foot in Germany during the War of the Austrian Succession, and was promoted to captain in the 45th Foot in 1750. He sold his commission in 1754 and purchased a captaincy in the New York provincial troops. One of his mentors in his early years was Edward Cornwallis, the uncle of Charles Cornwallis, against whom the Americans would later fight. Gates served under Cornwallis when the latter was governor of Nova Scotia.

In 1755, he accompanied the ill-fated Braddock Expedition. This force included other future Revolutionary War leaders such as Thomas Gage, Charles Lee, Daniel Morgan, and George Washington. Gates was severely injured early in the action. His experience in the early years of the war was limited to commanding small companies, but he apparently became quite good at military administration. He is considered to be the first Adjutant General of the United States Army.

Christopher Gist

Gist (1706-1759) was one of the first frontiersmen to explore the Ohio Country. He went with Washington on numerous expeditions, and is credited with saving his life at least twice. He was born in 1706 in Baltimore. His father, Richard Gist, worked on the layout of the City, and Gist may have had training as a surveyor at that time.

Gist settled in the Yadkin River area of present-day North Carolina in 1760, the neighbor of Daniel Boone. Gist was asked by the Ohio Company to explore the area of the Ohio River near the current location of Louisville, KY. When he returned, his family had moved to Roanoke, Virginia, to avoid Native American attacks. In 1750, he established a trading post for the Ohio company, south of the Potomac River, at the confluence of Will's Creek. This is the present location of the Town of Ridgeley, WV, across the Potomac from Cumberland, MD.

In 1751, he explored parts of present-day West Virginia and Pennsylvania, south of the Ohio River. In 1753, he went with Washington to deliver a message to the French at Fort LeBoeuf and at the battle of Jumonville Glen

Half-King – see Tanaghrisson
Sir Peter Halkett

Baronet Halkett was the officer in command of the British 44th Regiment of Foot under Braddock.

James Innes

Confusingly, there were two contemporary men named James Innes with the ranks of Captain and Colonel. Only one was involved with Fort Cumberland. One immigrated to North Carolina, died in 1759, and was buried at his plantation, Point Pleasant, on the northeast branch of the Cape Fear River in 1759.

As a young officer, James Innes was among the 25,000 Irish, English, and Scotch (mostly Catholics) who had followed James II to France and had served with distinction in the French army.

He was among the 637 Scottish rebels sentenced to transportation to the American colonies as indentured servants for a 7 year term after being captured in battle at Preston, Lancashire, in 1715. His home parish is given as City Edinburgh, and he was prisoner # 048 in Chester prison. He was transported in 1716 from Liverpool to Barbados on board the *Africa*. He was the only prisoner carried on this ship, which might indicate that he received special treatment; the other 636 were packed into nine ships, none headed to Barbados.

He may have chosen to go to Barbados because of already having relatives there: a James Innis had been buried in St James Parish in 1679; and another James Innis married Mary Roy in 1709.

James Innes was in North Carolina by January 1732, when he received a grant of 320 acres in what became Bladen County. He received another 640 acres there sixteen months later.

In 1754 Colonel James Innes was appointed by the North Carolina Assembly as Colonel of the Regiment being raised at the outbreak of the French and Indian War. Later he was appointed by

Robert Dinwiddie, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, to command all the troops sent to the Ohio. Colonel Fry had originally been the commander-in-chief and Lieutenant-colonel George Washington served under him. When Colonel Fry died Washington expected to succeed him. However, on being informed by Governor Dinwiddie of the appointment of Innes, Washington wrote "I rejoice that I am likely to be happy under the command of an experienced officer and man of sense. It is what I have ardently wished for." Dinwiddie appears to have known Innes well, addressing him as "Dear James," and conveying in his letters messages from his wife and daughters. Innes initially objected to his appointment on the grounds of his age. Dinwiddie wrote back "Your age is nothing when you reflect on your regular method of living." On arriving to take up his appointment, James Innes made his will at Winchester, VA, on July 5, 1754.

Colonel James Innes, the first husband of Jean Corbin, was a Scotsman, born in Cannessby, county Caithness, a far-away region in northern Scotland, from which others also migrated to North Carolina. He probably came to the colony with Governor Johnston in 1734, and with his wife settled at the Cape Fear. He served as captain of the Wilmington Company of North Carolina troops in the expedition against Cartagena in 1740 and was appointed after his return colonel of militia in New Hanover County. In 1754 he was spoken of as an old and experienced officer. His military service and close intimacy with Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia they were on a first name basis, led to his being selected to lead the provincial troops in the Braddock expedition.

The appointment of Gabriel Johnston to be governor of North Carolina in 1733 apparently led to quite an influx of Scotchmen to the Cape Fear, a favorable location in the New World. Among those who were attracted to Newton was Captain James Innes, who had resided at Cannisbay, in Caithness, in the extreme northern part of Scotland. Within a month after the arrival of Governor Johnston he issued commissions to justices to hold precinct courts, and among the justices for New Hanover Precinct was named James Innes. In May, 1735, the governor recommended Innes for a place in his Majesty's Council, and appointed him assistant to William Smith, chief Baron of the province. Captain Innes became a resident of Wilmington, and was a supporter of the governor in his various controversies with the older settlers.

It seems he had seen service in the British army, since in the fall of 1740, when four companies of troops were raised in North Carolina for service against the Spaniards, Captain Innes was appointed to command one of the company's. In the campaign against Cartagena, Captain Innes served with Lawrence Washington, the elder brother of George. He won a reputation for good judgment and cool conduct. This expedition ended disastrously, after nearly 80% of the troops died from a malignant fever.

Returning to North Carolina, Captain Innes became a successful planter, and Colonel of the militia. In 1750, he became a member of the Council. When the French and Indian War broke out, in 1754, the North Carolina Assembly promptly provided for raising a regiment to assist in the defense of Virginia, and Colonel Innes was appointed Colonel of that force.

Around the last of June, 1754, the North Carolina regiment, which had been reduced to 450 rank and file, arrived at Winchester, Virginia, where they found that no provisions or ammunition was there for them and their pay was in arrears. The governor suggested to Colonel Innes he build a log fort and magazine, saying that he did not wish the force to proceed toward the Ohio, and informed him, "I can give no orders for entertaining your regiment, as this Dominion will maintain none but their own forces." Indeed, Colonel Innes discovered a strong feeling among the Virginians against his appointment to the command, and a mutinous disposition soon

developed. The unfavorable situation led Colonel Innes to disband his North Carolina regiment and return to North Carolina.

He was later directed to build a fort on Wills Creek and he remained there in command of about 400 men, only forty of whom were North Carolinians. Early in October, Governor Sharpe of Maryland produced a commission from the King appointing him commander-in-chief. Innes wished to resign and retire, but was prevailed on to retain his rank. He was asked to accept the appointment as Camp Master General. He remained on the frontier, organizing the forces and completing the fort. General Braddock arrived from England with a large force of British regulars. When Colonel Washington found that the orders gave precedence to British officers of the same grade over colonial officers of senior commissions, he resigned his commission and retired from the service. He was prevailed on to serve as an aide on Braddock's staff. Braddock appointed Innes governor of Fort Cumberland, and left him in command there when the forces advanced toward Fort Duquesne. When the defeated forces returned as fugitives to Fort Cumberland, Colonel Dunbar, then in command, continued to winter quarters in Philadelphia. Dunbar left some three or four hundred sick and wounded at Fort Cumberland to be cared for. This overwhelmed the medical staff, and the cemetery.

The flight of the regulars discouraged the colonials, and many of Captain Brice Dobbs's North Carolina Company deserted and returned home. Some forty or fifty North Carolinians remained at the fort with Colonel Innes.

On the 25th of August Governor Dinwiddie wrote Colonel Innes at the fort:

"Yours of the 17th of August I received by Jenkins, and copy of both yours to Colonel Dunbar. His answer to your first is very evasive. Your last to him was extremely proper and personal. ... I shall very soon augment our forces to 1200 men, and then order as many as you think proper for your assistance. ... I am, Dear James, yours affectionately."

Governor Dinwiddie appointed Washington to the command of the new levies, and a month later Colonel Innes returned to North Carolina on leave of absence. But on the 10th of October Governor Dinwiddie advised Governor Dobbs that the French and Native Americans had surrounded Fort Cumberland. They had killed and scalped nearly one hundred of the people and had cut off the communication between the fort and the inhabitants. He asked for Innes, and without a day's delay Colonel Innes hurried back to Fort Cumberland. He remained there until the following summer, when, with the immediate frontier being quiet, he returned to North Carolina, and finally retired from service. He died at his home near Wilmington on September 5, 1759.

In his will Colonel Innes gave his plantation, *Point Pleasant*, a considerable personal estate, his library and £100 sterling "for the use of a free school for the benefit of the youth of North Carolina," this being the first private bequest for educational purposes in the history of America. He also made provision for the purchase of a church bell for the parish church at Cannisbay, in Caithnesse, and directed that £100 should be put at interest for the poor of that parish. Fort Mount Pleasant was sometimes referred to as Fort Innes.

Another James Innes

James Innes (1754-98) was an American lawyer. He was president of the board of war for Virginia (1779) and a member of the state legislature. A noted lawyer, considered second only to Patrick Henry as an orator, Innes was chosen to make the final appeal for adoption of the

Constitution in the Virginia ratifying convention. He defeated John Marshall for the office of Attorney General of Virginia, but declined an appointment as U.S. Attorney General.

Col. James Innes was an officer during the entire Revolutionary war, and raised a company at Williamsburg. He was present in command of the portion of the army at the surrender at Yorktown.

Joseph Coulon de Jumonville

Washington was returning from his failed diplomatic mission to the French, and was in the Western part of Maryland. A small detachment of French troops led by Jumonville was discovered by Tanacharison and a few warriors east of present-day Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Along with their Mingo allies, Washington and some of his militia unit then ambushed the French. What exactly happened during and after the battle is a matter of some controversy, but the immediate outcome was that Jumonville was injured in the initial attack and then was killed. These events had international consequences; the French accused Washington of assassinating Jumonville, who they claimed was on a diplomatic mission. Both France and England were ready to fight for control of the region and both sent troops to North America in 1755; war was formally declared in 1756.

Captain Charles Lewis

On Christmas Day 1755, Virginia Militia Captain Charles Lewis of Fredericksburg took command of Fort Ashby (in Western Virginia, now WV) and its garrison of twenty-one men. He had orders from Colonel Washington to remain there as long as he could and to hold the fort as long as possible. If necessary, rather than surrender it, he was to burn it and try to get to Fort Sellers, located on the east side of the mouth of Patterson Creek, or to Fort Cumberland. He later produced a detailed description of Fort Cumberland.

Captain John Mercer

Mercer was a member of Colonel George Washington's Virginia Regiment. He was ambushed and killed at the Battle of Great Cacapon, also known as *Mercer's Massacre*, April 18, 1756. That battle was fought between Washington's Virginia Regiment and French-allied Shawnee and Delaware Native Americans. Captain Mercer and a company of his men had been pursuing Native Americans when they were ambushed by a larger number of raiders. Mercer and at least 16 of his men were killed.

Following the outbreak of the French and Indian War in 1754, and the failure of British General Edward Braddock's expedition in 1755, French commanders in the Ohio Country encouraged their Native American allies to raid British colonial settlements. Northwestern Virginia (an area including what is now the state of West Virginia) and western Pennsylvania were areas subjected to frequent Native American raids. In an attempt to defend against these raids, Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie ordered a series of defensive fortifications to be constructed. These forts were manned by members of Virginia provincial militia under the overall command of Colonel George Washington

Andrew Montour

Andrew Montour (c. 1720–1772), also known as Henry Montour, Sattelihi, and Eghnisara, was an important interpreter and negotiator in the Virginia and Pennsylvania backcountry in the 1750s and 1760s.

Montour was of mixed European and Native American ancestry. His mother was Madame Montour, a well-known, influential interpreter. She was probably of French and Native ancestry. She spoke several languages and often served as an interpreter between Europeans and Native Americans. Andrew Montour's father was Carondawanna, an Oneida war chief.

Montour shared his mother's gift for languages. He spoke French, English, Delaware, Shawnee, and at least one of the Iroquois languages. Comfortable with both Native Americans and Europeans, he made a good living as a translator for Colonial governments.

Throughout the French and Indian War Montour sided with the British and worked for the colonies of Pennsylvania and Virginia. He also worked for Sir William Johnson's Indian Department. He was with George Washington before the battle at Fort Mifflin, and was also one of the few Native Americans to travel with Edward Braddock. So strong was his influence with tribes in the Ohio River Valley that the French put a bounty on his head. Montour was murdered by a Seneca in 1772.

Daniel Morgan

Daniel Morgan (1736 – 1802) was an American pioneer, soldier, and United States Representative from Virginia. One of the most gifted battlefield tacticians of the American Revolutionary War, he commanded troops during the suppression of the Whiskey Rebellion.

Morgan was probably born in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. His parents were Welsh immigrants. When he was 16, he left home following a fight with his father. After working at odd jobs in Pennsylvania, he moved to the Shenandoah Valley, and finally settled on the Virginia frontier, near what is now Winchester, Virginia.

Morgan was poorly educated. He worked clearing land, for a sawmill, and as a teamster. In a year, he saved enough to buy his own team of horses. Morgan had served as a civilian teamster during the French and Indian War. During the advance on Fort Mifflin by General Braddock's command, he was punished with 499 lashes (a usually fatal sentence) for punching his superior officer. Morgan thus acquired a hatred for the British Army.

He later served as a rifleman in the Provincial forces assigned to protect the western border settlements from French-backed Native American raids.

In 1794 he was briefly recalled to national service to help suppress the Whiskey Rebellion. Serving under General "Light-Horse Harry" Lee, Morgan led one wing of the militia army into western Pennsylvania. The massive show of force brought an end to the protests without a shot being fired. After the uprising had been suppressed, Morgan commanded the remnants of the army that remained in Pennsylvania.

Sir James Napper

Napper was Director of the Hospital for the Braddock Expedition, being the Chief Medical Officer. The hospital was set up at Fort Cumberland in the aftermath of the disaster that killed Braddock. Napier had few staff and little in the way of medical supplies.

Dr. David Ross

Ross, of Bladensburg, MD, was the *Agent Victualer* for the Braddock Expedition, and Fort Cumberland.

Sir John St. Clair

St. Clair was a British officer serving under Braddock as deputy quartermaster.

Charles Scott

Scott enlisted in the Virginia Regiment in October 1755 and served as a scout and escort during the French and Indian War.

Scott served under George Washington in the Braddock Expedition. For most of 1756 and the early part of 1757, he divided his time between Fort Cumberland and Fort Washington, conducting scouting and escort missions. He quickly rose through the ranks, becoming a captain by the end of the war. Later, Scott was elected the fourth governor of Kentucky in 1808.

Governor Horatio Sharpe

Sharpe was Governor of Maryland from 1753 to 1768. Sharpe was born in England in 1718. He was commissioned in the King's forces in 1745 as a Captain and fought in the Jacobite rebellion against the Scots. He served with the 20th Regiment of Foot and the Marines. Later he served in the West Indies as a Lieutenant-Colonel until his appointment by Frederick Calvert, 6th Baron Baltimore, as the proprietary Maryland Colonial Governor. He arrived in Maryland in August 1753.

He was appointed by the King in 1754 as the Royal Commander in Chief of all British Forces and commander of colonial forces for the protection of Virginia and adjoining Colonies. He was replaced by Braddock.

He was a capable civil and military administrator, gentleman-farmer, fancier of fine horses, hospitable host, and friend of George Mason and George Washington. Horatio Sharpe built the estate *Whitehall* on the outskirts of Annapolis. It served as Sharpe's residence from the time of his enforced retirement in 1769 until his return to England in 1773.

Evan Shelby

Shelby served in Braddock's Campaign, and later lead a Company of Maryland Rangers in the Forbes Campaign.

Lt. Spendlow

Spendlow, of the Royal Navy, was head of the Naval Detachment under Braddock. He was seconded to Braddock by Admiral Keppel.

Edward Spring

Spring had the misfortune to die in a 1758 explosion of the powder magazine at Fort Cumberland. He was a member of the Maryland Assembly from Frederick county, and Captain of Militia. In a letter of October 19, 1758, Governor Hortio Sharpe wrote to General John Forbes, "Since my last (letter), I have had the misfortune to lose Capt. Sprigg & Mr. Luckett my Adjutant by the blowing up of the lesser magazine..."

Adam Steven

Steven was in the Virginia Militia with Washington at the Battle of Fort Necessity and on Braddock's Expedition. He commanded Virginia Militia at Fort Cumberland. He was later the founder of Martinsburg, WV.

Tanaghrisson

He was born a Catawba but was adopted by the Senecas, a member of the Iroquois League. He became a chief, but was labeled the *Half King* because all of his decisions had to be approved by the Iroquois Council. Around 1750, he was sent by the Council to restore Iroquois control over the Ohio Valley. Iroquois domination was threatened by the Ohio, a subordinate tribe, who had begun trading and negotiating directly with the British. French threats to increase their own presence in the valley if the Iroquois failed to prevent British expansion was another issue..

Tanaghrisson forged an alliance with the British and took steps to provoke a war between the British and the French by slaughtering French soldiers after they surrendered to George Washington and his militia at Fort Necessity in Great Meadows.

Thomas Walker

Walker was an agent for the Braddock expedition, and Commissary Agent for the Virginia Militia.

Laurence Washington

Laurence was George's older brother; a member of the Ohio Company who had served with Innes in the West Indies.

George Washington

Thanks to his brother Lawrence's connection to the powerful Fairfax family, at age 17 Washington was appointed official surveyor for Culpeper County in 1749. Thanks also to Lawrence's involvement in the Ohio Company and Lawrence's position as commander of the Virginia militia, Washington came to the notice of the new lieutenant governor of Virginia, Robert Dinwiddie.

Washington was appointed by Dinwiddie with the rank of Major in the Virginia militia. He was involved from the beginning with the French and Indian War. Governor Dinwiddie received orders from the British government to inform the French of British claims, and sent Major Washington in late 1753 to deliver a letter and to politely ask them to leave. Washington met with Tanacharison and other Iroquois leaders allied to Virginia at Logstown to secure their support in case of conflict with the French. Washington and Tanacharison became friends and allies. Washington delivered the letter to the local French commander, who politely refused to leave.

Governor Dinwiddie sent Washington back to the Ohio Country to protect an Ohio Company group building a fort at present-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania but before he reached the area, a French force drove out the company's crew and began construction of Fort Duquesne. The French responded by attacking and capturing Washington at Fort Necessity in July 1754. Washington surrendered, but the senior French military leader was killed. He was allowed to return with his troops to Virginia..

In 1755, Washington was the senior American aide to British General Edward Braddock on the ill-fated Braddock expedition. This was the largest British expedition to the colonies, and was intended to expel the French from the Ohio Country. The French and their Native American allies ambushed Braddock, who was mortally wounded in the Battle of the Monongahela. After suffering devastating casualties, the British retreated in disarray; however, Washington rode back and forth across the battlefield, rallying the remnants of the British and Virginian forces to an organized retreat.

Later, as President and Commander-in-Chief of United States Forces, Washington lead troops again the Whiskey Rebels in Western Pennsylvania, after reviewing the troops at Fort Cumberland.

Organizations

This section discusses some of the various organizations involved with Fort Cumberland.

The Ohio Company

The Ohio Company was formed in 1747 by a group of affluent and influential Virginians. It was the idea of Thomas Lee, President of the Virginia Council. The lands west of the Appalachians was seen as ripe for exploitation, as soon as the Native American problem could be resolved, and the lands opened for sale to fresh immigrants from Europe. Lee was also the President of the Company. Two of George Washington's brothers (Lawrence and Augustine) were involved. It didn't hurt to have Virginia governor Robert Dinwiddie as a member, nor the Duke of Bedford, and a wealthy merchant from London, John Hanbury. The Ohio Company was involved in land speculation. The group petitioned the King of England for a grant of 200,000 acres and a royal

charter, and this was approved in 1748. The Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, Dinwiddie, also a company stockholder, approved the grant. The Company was to settle 100 family's in the area, and build a fort for their defense. The Company sought a monopoly on the Native American trade. This was to be a private, not governmental action, so as to avoid direct confrontation with the French.

The Ohio Company was granted a charter to 2 million acres in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia in 1748. The Ohio Company was one vehicle through which British investors planned to expand into the territory, opening new settlements and building trading posts for the Native American trade.

The Ohio Company needed the land surveyed, and turned to woodsman Christopher Gist in 1750. Gist was one of the first frontiersmen to explore the Ohio Country. He went with Washington on numerous expeditions, and is credited with saving his life on at least two occasions. Gist was born in 1706 in Baltimore. His father, Richard Gist, worked on the layout of the City, and Gist may have had training as a surveyor at that time. In 1750, he established a trading post for the Ohio Company, south of the Potomac River, at the confluence of Will's Creek. This is the present location of the Town of Ridgeley, WV. The facility was called Fort Ohio, or the *New Store*. There is an historical marker for this in the Town of Ridgeley.

In 1753, Thomas Cresap was asked by the Ohio Company to repair the Company storehouse at Will's Creek. He was to supply plank lumber from his sawmill. At the time, there were two blockhouses, one 45 x 25 feet, the other 44 x 20 feet, both with cellars. There was also a stable for 12 horses. By 1754, there was a need for a fortified position at the confluence of Will's Creek and the Potomac River on the Maryland side. South of the river in Virginia, the Ohio Company had fortified their blockhouse and trading center with light cannon. Things were heating up on the frontier border between the English colonies and New France.

The records of the Virginia Company were preserved by Charles Mercer at his home in Alexandria, Virginia. Unfortunately, most were lost when used to kindle bonfires by Union Troops during the occupation of that city in the Civil War.

Loyal Company of Virginia

This was a land speculation company founded in December, 1749, for encouraging frontier settlement. It had a Royal grant of 800,000 acres of trans-Appalachian land. The primary founder was John Lewis, and Joshua Fry was a member. The company was regularly in dispute with the Ohio Company.

Due to the vague description of various land grants the Loyal Company found itself regularly embroiled in disputes with the Ohio Company and the New River Company of James Patton. The lack of certainty over land title slowed the process of attracting settlers and on June 14, 1753 the Loyal Company was granted a four-year extension to its deadline for surveying claims.

The company also planned a substantial western expedition in 1753 with objectives that foreshadowed the Lewis and Clark Expedition. James Maury described the proposed trip in a 1756 letter: "Some persons were to be sent in search of that river Missouri, if that be the right name of it, in order to discover whether it had any communication with the Pacific Ocean; they were to follow the river if they found it, and exact reports of the country they passed through, the distances they traveled, what worth of navigation those river and lakes afforded etc. "

The French & Indian war delayed any activities by the Loyal Company. Its Charter expired in 1757, but more extensions were granted. In 1763, another extension was requested, but denied, as the British Policy on settlement in the Appalachian and western lands had changed. The company effectively ceased operations after the Revolution, as its Royal Charter was no longer valid.

Forces Serving at the Fort

The Fort was garrisoned at various times by Virginia, North and South Carolina, New York and Maryland Militia, and hosted the British Regiments during the campaign against the French at Fort Duquesne. The British regiments, raised in Ireland, also included local Virginia and Maryland recruits. Braddock's volunteer aide-de-camp was Washington. In the build-up before the expedition against Fort Duquesne, there were about 150 wagons with civilian teams and drivers, including Daniel Boone and Daniel Morgan.

48th Regiment of Foot, British Army

The 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot was raised in 1741 as James Cholmondeley's Regiment of Foot in Norwich, England during the War of Austrian Succession. The regiment first saw action at the Battles of Falkirk and Culloden in 1745-1746, campaigning against the Young Pretender. In 1748, it was renumbered as the 48th Regiment of Foot. The 48th took part in the French and Indian War, particularly the Braddock Expedition, and later received their first battle honor in the Americas at the Battle of Louisburg. The 48th was part of General James Wolfe's capture of Quebec in 1759. The 48th was also part of the Great Siege of Gibraltar from 1779-1783.

The regiment then fought as part of the Duke of Wellington's army for the duration of the Peninsular War against Napoleonic France. The regiment's most famous battle honor was gained in at the Battle of Talavera in 1809. From 1817 until 1824, the 48th Regiment of Foot was stationed in Australia.

In 1856 the Regiment went to the Crimean War, and saw action at the Battle of Sevastopol. The Northamptonshire Regiment fought in World War I at the Battles of the Marne, Ypres and Somme. The regiment fought in World War II seeing action in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

44th Regiment of Foot, British Army

The regiment was raised in 1741 as *James Long's Regiment of Foot*, as the tradition at the time to name regiments after their Commanding Officer. The regiment was renamed the 44th Regiment of Foot in 1751 when British regiments ceased to be named for their Colonels. The regiment saw active service overseas in North America and participated in the French and Indian War and in the American Revolution. After 1782, the regiment became known as the 44th (East Essex) Regiment of Foot.

The regiment went on to fight in the Napoleonic Wars in Spain and North America. Notably, the battalion fought at the Battle of Bladensburg (MD) in 1814, and the Battle of New Orleans (1815).

The regiment increased in strength during the Napoleonic Wars and a 2nd Battalion in 1803. The 2nd Battalion was added. It saw active service in the Peninsular War and the Waterloo Campaign.

Notably, the battalion fought at Fuentes de Onoro, Badajoz, Salamanca, Quatre Bras, and Waterloo. It was disbanded in 1816 at the conclusion of the wars.

The 2nd Battalion won glory for the 44th at the Battle of Salamanca in 1812 when it captured the French Imperial Eagle (Regimental Standard) of the French 62nd Regiment.

The capture of a French Imperial Eagle by the fictional "South Essex Regiment" in the Sharpe novels of Bernard Cornwell is based upon the 2/44th's battle honor. The South Essex is depicted as having yellow coat facings like the 44th (East Essex).

There is a Living History Reenactment Group that models the 44th Regiment during the French & Indian War period.

Royal Navy detachment

Sailors of the Royal Navy (30 men and 2 midshipmen) under Lieutenant Spendlow supported the expedition. Luckily, Spendlow kept a Journal, which has survived. The Navy men were taken along to handle rigging and ropes, to maneuver the canon and other heavy loads.

Royal Artillery

The Royal Artillery unit, consisting of 4 lieutenants and 13 NCOs under Captain Ord, had 60 men total, 13 artillery wagons, and 17 wagons for the ammunition. It had six brass 6-pounders, the only cannon to see action. The four brass twelve-pounders needed five horses to move. The cannons fired solid shot, canister, or exploding shell, and were served by a crew of five. Canister, an anti-personnel round, was effective out to 1000 meters. The four brass 8" howitzers would need 7-9 horses each. Fifteen 4-2/5" Coehorn mortars were each served by a crew of four. These fired an exploding shell, at a high trajectory. The firing angle was fixed at 45 degrees, and the powder charge determined the range. Associated powder wagons and tumbrels (1-horse wagons, with 2 wheels) were included. On June 8, by order of Braddock, two of the six pounders, four mortars, and associated ordnance stores in 16 heavy wagons were ordered back to Fort Cumberland. Reproductions of the various crew-served weapons can be found today at Fort Ligonier in Pennsylvania.

Maryland Militia

The Maryland militia dates to 1634, and continues to this day as the Maryland National Guard and Maryland Defense Force. According to the Official Maryland Military Department documents, authorization for military force in Maryland began when the Maryland Charter of 1632 empowered Lord Baltimore to raise troops to put down insurrection or rebellion and subdue enemies of the province. It continued in the eighteenth century as Maryland militia units fought during the French and Indian Wars, the American Revolution, the war of 1812, and on both sides in the Civil War.

Records of Maryland soldiers during Forbes' campaign survive due to political wrangling over their compensation. The entry for Private Samuel Teater in "French and Indian War Account Books vol. 1, 1762-1763" (Maryland Historical Society, MS 375) lists credits for service in

Joshua Beall's company from October 9, 1757 to December 30, 1758; in Dagworthy's company from December 31, 1758 to April 26, 1759; and for work on Fort Cumberland, margin note dated March 8, 1763. The debit column includes hospital and unspecified charges, and a payment to Captain Joshua Beall, possibly for a cash advance. Serving under Braddock were 49 men of Captain John Dagworthy's Maryland Rangers.

Virginia Militia

The Virginia Militia was established in 1607 as a part of the British Colonial militia system. All free white Protestant citizens of the Commonwealth were obliged to serve. They generally met monthly for drill. The Virginia Militia survives to this day as the Virginia National Guard and the Virginia Defense Force.

Virginia militia units serving with Braddock include:

Captain Peronee's Virginia Rangers (47 men)
Captain Wagner's Virginia Rangers (45 men)
Captain Steven's Virginia Rangers (48 men)
Captain Hogg's Virginia Rangers (40 men)
Captain Cox's Virginia Rangers (48 men)
Captain Mercer's Company of Carpenters (35 men)
Stewart's Virginia Troop of Light Horse (45 men)

New York forces

Captain Rutherford's Independent Company of Foot (95 men)
Captain Clarke's Independent Company of Foot
Captain Horatio Gates' Independent Company of Foot (100 men)

North Carolina forces

Captain Dobbs' North Carolina Rangers (80 men)
Col. Innes commanding all of the North Carolina and Virginia militia troops.

South Carolina forces

Captain Demerie's South Carolina Independent Company (97 men)

Other

Captain Polson's Artificers (combat engineers) (48 men)

Native American Forces

The Native Americans aligned with the British included the Mingo's, an Iroquoian tribe. Many tribes decided to stay neutral, and see which European group became dominant. Generally, the British Officers saw no use for the native troops and held them in contempt, while the colonial

troops viewed them as potential enemies. The Native Americans switched sides, as benefited them at the time, and basically wanted both the French and the British to leave. In all, the French seemed to have a better policy toward the Native Americans, and were able to enlist them as allies, which paid benefits for them in regards to Braddock's expedition, but not in the war overall. Braddock allowed the use of eight Native Americans as scouts on his expedition, but not as warriors.

Ranger Units

Robert Rogers was a popularly acclaimed military leader during the French and Indian War, who institutionalized many frontier-style practices of warfare and whose forces are regarded by some as the model for later ranger activities. Rangers generally used the long rifle, effective at 200 yards, twice that of the musket. They were taught to seek out officers as targets, based on their uniforms and epaulets. They wore hunting clothes, and were trained in woodcraft.

In Rogers' Ranging Rules, he set down more than two dozen no-nonsense rules for frontier warfare. He insisted on the intensive training of his soldiers, including exposure to live-fire exercises. The result of his efforts was the creation of a highly mobile force that could sustain itself for long periods by living off the land. Rogers Rules are still taught to U.S. Special Forces. In 1758, Rogers was given command of all colonial ranger forces in North America.

Timeline of Fort Cumberland

1744-48	King Georges War.
1748	Ohio Company formed.
1749-50	Blockhouse built south of the Potomac at Will's Creek for the Ohio Company.
1753-54	Gist & Washington's expedition from Wills Creek.
1754	Fort Duquesne built by the French at the Forks of the Ohio.
1754-63	Seven Years War.
1754	Fort ordered built by Governor Dinwiddie at Will's Creek and Potomac River.
1754-55	Fort garrisoned with militia.
1755, July	Braddock expedition against Fort Duquesne; renames Fort Cumberland.
1757	300 Maryland troops in garrison at the fort, replacing Virginia Militia.
1758	Dagworthy sent from Fort Frederick with 150 men.
1758	Forbes Expedition against Fort Duquesne.
1762	Virginia Militia leave Fort Cumberland.
1763	British troops from Fort Pitt arrive at Fort Cumberland to guard supplies.
1765	Fort abandoned by order of General Gage, British CinC of North America.
1767	Mason-Dixon survey defines the boundary between Maryland & Pennsylvania
1776-83	Revolutionary War.
1787	City of Cumberland chartered.
1789	Allegany County founded in Western Maryland.
1794	Last military use, Washington review of troops - Whiskey Rebellion.
1840	Log Courthouse on Prospect Square torn down.
1849	Allegany Academy built on site of Log Courthouse.
1851	Emmanuel Episcopal Church built on grounds of Fort Cumberland.
1850/51	Railroad construction forces moving the contents of the Fort Cumberland cemetery to Rose Hill Cemetery in the city.
1880 (abt)	Millholland House built behind Emmanuel Episcopal Church near Fort Cumberland's well.
1893	Allegany Courthouse built on parade grounds of Fort Cumberland.
1912	Masonic Temple built on Fort grounds, adjacent to Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

Construction of the Fort

Governor Dinwiddie, seeing the pending conflicts, ordered the Virginia Colonial Militia to build a fort at the confluence of Wills Creek and the Potomac on the Maryland side for the purposes of defense, not trade. In August 1754 Governor Dinwiddie provided instructions to Colonel Innes as follows: "There are six swivels at Will's Creek belonging to the Ohio Company, which is all we have. You must make use of them." Swivel guns were small cannon, capable of being carried and fired by one man, used to defend fixed fortifications. There is mention of the "camp at Mount Pleasant" in Scharf's History of Western Maryland.

The building of the fort in western Maryland was accomplished by Colonel James Innes, of North Carolina. That colony, to Virginia's south, was a close ally in the defense of the frontier. There are two James Innes' that are sometimes confused. The one we are interested in here was born in Scotland, and owned a plantation in North Carolina called *Point Pleasant*. He later lead troops during the French and Indian War, and died in 1759, before the Revolution.

On August 30, 1754, Governor Dinwiddie issued an order to Colonel Innes as follows: "... take possession of the Ohio Company's warehouse at Will's creek for your provisions; get your great guns up there, mount them for defense. Can you make sheds round it for accommodating your people in case of bad weather?" The work commenced on the 12th of September, and was completed by mid-October. Innes then began the construction of log houses for the garrison. It would have been common practice to clear the ground around the fort to a distance of at least 100 yards, the extended range of the personal firearms then in use.

Dinwiddie's fort was completed in the fall of 1754 by Innes. The fort was garrisoned by two New York Colonial Militia Companies (Rutherford's and Clark's Independent Companies of Foot), Demerries' Independent Company from South Carolina, and a Maryland Company. According to Page 83 of Lowdermilk's 1878 book "History of Cumberland", Colonel Innes began construction on a stockade fort at the mouth of Wills Creek on September 12, 1754. The resulting structure was known as Fort Mount Pleasant. Innes probably named the fort after his North Carolina Plantation.

Dinwiddie then received instructions from England around Christmas of 1754 to erect a fort at Will's Creek. It was to be "of such dimensions and character of construction as the importance of the position seemed to require." Dinwiddie forwarded these instructions to Innes. The on-site fort was evidently then expanded, and included the original smaller structure. The new, expanded fort was constructed during the winter of 1754/55.

The fort had a perimeter of some 160 yards, which would have required some 650 9-inch average diameter trees to construct. The logs were mentioned as being 18 feet long. The fort and accompanying cleared land would include some 6 acres. The author noted 9-inch diameter logs used in the reconstruction of near-by Fort Ligonier.

The minutes of the December 3, 1754 Provincial Council of Pennsylvania record an October 16, 1754 letter that was written by George Croghan. A sentence in that letter reads: "Colonel Innis has Built a Fortification at the Mouth of Wills' Creek opposite to the New Store called Fort

Mount Pleasant.” Captain Charles Lewis of Virginia describes a quad fort with four bastions, 100 feet square with eleven 4-pounder canon and two smaller pieces.

Sharpe's December 10, 1754 letter describes Fort Mount Pleasant. According to the 1888 book "Archives of Maryland Correspondence of Governor Horatio Sharpe Vol. I. 1753-1757", on December 10, 1754 Governor Sharpe of Maryland wrote the following to Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia: “I returned last Thursday from Wills Creek where I found the Independents preparing for themselves Barracks, having already completed the small Stoccado Fort about which you were advised they had been employed; but as the Fort they have finished is exceedingly small its Exterior Side not exceeding 120 feet I conceived it requisite or rather absolutely necessary to have another much larger raised on an adjacent & more elevated piece of Ground which I have ordered the Maryland Company to proceed on & I hope they will be able to finish it this winter. The Eminence on which it will be situated gives it an entire Command of that already compleated (sic) & will defend a Face of that small Fort to which an Enemy might at present approach without being much annoyed or hardly seen from within. However That on which The Troops have been employed may be useful at present & will serve to enclose Store Houses or a Magazine after the other is compleated which I think by an advanced Out Work or two will be easily defended against a considerable number of Troops that may presume to attack it with only a light Train.”

This appears to say that Sharpe visited the site of Innes' Fort Mount Pleasant, and now found it overwhelmed by events, and needing enlargement. On January 15, 1755, Sharpe and Sir John St. Clair visited the fort site, from Annapolis.

Page 373 of Winthrop Sargent's 1855 book "An Expedition against Fort DuQuesne in 1755; Under Major-General Edward Braddock ... " includes the May 10, 1755 journal entry of the Detachment of Seamen, which describes Fort Cumberland as follows: “At 2 we arrived at Will's Creek, and encamped to the Westward of the Fort on a hill, and found here 6 Companies of Sir Peter Halket's Reg., 9 Companies of Virginians, and a Maryland Company. Fort Cumberland is situated within 200 yards of Will's Creek, on a hill, and about 400 from the Potomack; its length from east to west is about 200 yards, and breadth 46 yards, and is built by logs driven into the ground, and about 12 feet above it, with embrasures for 12 guns, and 10 mounted, 4 pounders, besides stocks for swivels, and loop holes for small arms.

“October 26th - This day Lieutenant Walter Stewart showed me the fort. 'Tis a Quad fort, with four Bast(ion)s; about one hundred feet in the square; has eleven four-pounders and two smaller, mounted. 'Tis situated on the north side of the Potomack, in Maryland, on a hill; very pleasant: more so, I think, than advantageous; has a romantick prospect from the mountains, and is very healthy.”

Lewis describes a fort that was a four-sided enclosure (a quadrangle) that had four bastions, and was "about one hundred feet in the square". Bastions are projections at the corners of a fortification that allow fire to be directed along the outer faces of the curtains (i.e., along the straight palisade walls).

In a November 26, 1755 journal entry regarding a day trip, Lewis makes it very clear that the New Storehouse was on the other side of the Potomac from the Fort. He writes: “... we

proceeded on our march to the new store, built by the Ohio Company, from whence we crossed the Potomack River, and before night got into Fort Cumberland.”

Captain Snow's distorted, out-of-scale 1754 map of western Pennsylvania shows a road leading from the Ohio Company's new storehouse at Wills Creek to Trent's fort at the present-day location of Pittsburgh. Snow shows the storehouse to be on the north side of the Potomac River. However, Lewis's November 26, 1755 journal entry and Gist's November 4, 1751 journal entry indicate that the new storehouse was on the south side of the Potomac River. Evans' and Gist's firsthand accounts state that the new storehouse was a separate building, and not incorporated into Fort Cumberland.

The 1855 book "Braddock's Expedition: A Monograph" states that the barracks were "arranged in the manner of a fortified camp, flanking and flanked by the fort". While the book is not in itself original documentary evidence, the quoted statement seems possibly to have been referencing some original document that related to a visit to the fort by Governor Sharpe on January 26, 1755.

A figure of the original British plan of Fort Cumberland in the British Museum is reprinted in Lowdermilk's book. It shows an elongated structure that consists of a small quadrangle fort with four bastions that is flanked by, and connected to a large fortified camp. Two of the bastions face the fortified camp, and are interior to the overall structure. The fact that two bastions face the interior of the overall fortified structure strongly suggests that the small quadrangle fort with four bastions was the original Fort Mount Pleasant that was described in Sharpe's December 10, 1754 letter, and described again in the October 26, 1755 journal entry of Captain Charles Lewis. It seems that the Fort Cumberland structure consisted of the original Fort Mount Pleasant with an addition. The addition appears to have been a fortified camp that was added on the lower (eastern) side of the fort, and enclosed two of the original bastions.

Braddock arrived on May 5, 1755 with the British Regular Regiments, the 44th and 48th Regiments of Foot. He renamed the fort for his immediate superior, Prince William, Duke of Cumberland. Innes remained at the Fort when the Braddock expedition left for Fort Duquesne. He had been named “Camp Master General of Fort Cumberland” by Braddock, in charge of the garrison of Virginia, North Carolina, and Maryland provincial troops.

It was British Policy in 1754 that “...considerable Forts, cased with stone should not be built in America until the plans and estimates have been sent to England and approved by the government.” Before Braddock left England, Cumberland advised him against building “...too many forts of which they are perhaps too fond in that country.” In addition, “His Royal Highness thinks that stockaded forts, with pallisadoes and a good ditch capable of containing 200 men or 400 upon an emergency, will be sufficient for the present.” In retrospect, this advice turned out to be good. Fort Cumberland never was seriously threatened by enemy action. On the other hand, the original stone-walled Fort Frederick, built by the Colony of Maryland, still stands.

Braddock changed the name of the facility and had it expanded when he arrived on May 5, 1755. In 1756, a well was dug inside the fort (which survives on the property of the Millholland House, on Washington Street). The original fort included 2 water gates. There was a 9 foot wide main gate at the west end, and a north and south gate. The fort's jail was near present-day Lee Street,

outside the walls. The hospital was outside and to the south, with a cemetery outside the walls, to the west.

After the Braddock expedition

The Braddock expedition staggered back to Fort Cumberland, leaving behind dead and wounded. Those that made it to the Fort received what medical attention was available. Some of these would be buried in the Fort's cemetery, to the west.

Fort Cumberland was reinforced with 50 Virginia troops. It was now the first line of defense on the frontier. The Colony of Maryland authorized 80 more men into the militia ranks to serve on the Western Frontier. Governor Sharpe also authorized the construction of Fort Frederick, east of Hancock. This substantial stone fort was to be the fall-back position if Fort Cumberland were taken by the French. That fort still exists in good shape, and is a Maryland State Park near Hancock.

In 1750 Colonel Adam Stephen was in command at Fort Cumberland. During 1757-1758, Washington was at Fort Cumberland for varying periods. In 1758, Washington assembled 1000 troops at the Fort in support of the campaign against Fort Duquesne by Forbes, launched from Fort Ligonier in Pennsylvania.

In 1758, a convoy from Winchester to Fort Cumberland was ambushed 6 miles from the Fort by Native Americans. In 1763, Colonel Stephenson had 400 men at the Fort for support to Colonel Bouquet at Fort Pitt, the renamed Fort Duquesne, then besieged by Native American forces.

The Whiskey Rebellion

The Whiskey Rebellion in Western Pennsylvania was a tax protest in 1791-94 concerning alcohol taxed by the Federal Government to pay war debt. Violence erupted, and Federal troops moved in, lead by then-President Washington. This prevented what might have become a civil war, based on a conflict between states and Federal rights. The tax was repealed in 1801. This is the only time a serving President commanded troops in the field. 3200 Federal troops lead by Washington were mustered at Fort Cumberland, and marched to Western Pennsylvania in October 1794.

Washington spent a week at the Fort, organizing the expedition against the Whiskey Rebels. This was the last mention of organized military units at the facility.

During the Revolutionary War, Fort Cumberland saw no action, but was used as part of the logistics support for Fort Pitt. It was being considered that a new road be cut between the forts, some 22-25 miles shorter than the Braddock Road. This was called the Turkey Foot Road. A key person in the logistics supply to Fort Pitt was George Morgan.

Fort Cumberland had served its purpose, and was never taken by enemy action. It is speculated that much of the original timber from the fort was salvaged and used to build houses in Cumberland.

No records were uncovered of archaeological finds during the construction of the Episcopal Church, the Masonic Temple, the Millholland House, the new Allegany Court House, or the Academy, now the Allegany County Library. A publication related to archaeological findings at Fort Ligonier provides useful information in identifying and classifying such findings, if they emerge.

What Remains

George Washington's Headquarters cabin in Riverside Park, was reconstructed from the original logs. By the growth rings, these were mature trees when cut, the rings ranging from 130 to 150. Adjacent to the cabin is a reconstruction of a stockade wall section.

The tunnels under Emmanuel Episcopal Church may be the remains of trenches set up to allow access to Wills Creek for water. The fort included underground store houses for food and gun powder. Again, Fort Ligonier is a good example.

There is a tunnel from the Church basement to the Allegany County Library building, although this dates from a later period, and was used to supply steam for heat to the Academy.

The church was built in 1851. The fort's well is located in the parking lot behind the Millholland House.

The Millholland House was built for James A. Millholland, as part of the deal by the Georges Creek and Cumberland Railway to lure him away from the Cumberland & Pennsylvania Railroad. He accepted the position of President in 1869, and lived in the house with his family until his death in 1911. He and his wife and a few of his children are buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Cumberland.

Legend has it that Braddock's payroll (gold) was buried somewhere to the west of Fort Cumberland during the retreat. We know he came to America with the Army payroll for approximately 6 months (Riker), and it left Alexandria, Colony of Virginia. He wasn't planning to return to Fort Cumberland after taking Fort Duquesne, so he probably didn't leave it behind at Wills Creek. There are many legends and theories, but no gold has ever been found.

Forts associated with Fort Cumberland

There were a series of smaller Forts, blockhouses really, in certain critical points on the Frontier, east and south of Fort Cumberland. The only remaining one is Fort Ashby.

Fort Ashby is a historic stockade fort located in Fort Ashby, West Virginia. A military installation constructed during the French and Indian War, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Fort Ohio was the first in the chain with Fort Sellers being the second and Fort Ashby and Fort Cocke being the outermost forts.

In 1755, Colonel George Washington gave orders to build a stockade and fort on the East Side of Patterson's Creek. On Christmas Day, 1755, Captain Charles Lewis of Fredericksburg took command of the fort and a garrison of twenty-one men. He had orders from Colonel Washington to remain quiet as long as he could and to hold the fort as long as possible, but if necessary rather

than surrender, he should burn it and try to escape to Fort Sellers on the east side of mouth of Patterson's Creek. The only major battle at Fort Ashby occurred in 1756 when Lieutenant Robert Rutherford and his rangers were defeated by a band of French and Native Americans. During the siege, Colonel John Ashby was attacked by Native Americans and made a remarkable escape to the fort. It is from this incident that the Fort was named. The Daughters of the American Revolution own Fort Ashby. The museum is open for special events and by appointment only. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

Fort Ohio was a stockade fort erected by Job Pearsall in 1749 on the present site of Ridgeley, West Virginia. The building was of log construction, 45 feet long and 25 feet wide, with two stories. The Ohio Company had a trading post at that location. It was only 400 yards away from Fort Cumberland, on the other side of the Potomac.

Fort Sellers was a small stockade on the east side of Patterson's Creek at the confluence with the Potomac River, in Franklin District, Virginia, present day Mineral County, West Virginia. This fort was erected by Colonel Washington.

The dimensions of Fort Sellers are not known, but it was most likely similar in size to Fort Ashby, the stockade being 90 square feet. The fort did not figure into Washington's plans for the defense of the frontier. On May 18, 1756, he wrote Col. Stephen stating he wished it were possible to remove the stores at the mouth of Patterson's Creek to Ashby's fort. Stephen was further told that if he found it impractical to move the supplies stored there from the fort, then he was to make the fort as strong as possible and to strengthen the garrison. He was also instructed to "put a more experienced officer than Mr. Brockenbrough (Lieut. Austin Brockenbrough, 10th Company, Virginia Regiment) at it, whose youth perhaps may be a means of his doing something inconsistent."

Fort Cocke was a stockade, made of wooden palisades, up stream from Fort Ashby. It was a square, ninety feet on a side. Blockhouses were built at each of the four corners. A barracks to house fifty men was constructed within the stockade. It was built by Captain William Cocke's First Company of Rangers under orders of George Washington dated October 26, 1755.

It was constructed south of George Parker's land. This was on Lot 13 of the Lord Fairfax's Patterson Creek Manor. The fort was constructed on the east side of Patterson's Creek, on a flat terrace above a rocky shelf overlooking the creek bottom, about 1.5 miles south of present Headsville, West Virginia.

Fort Cocke was a place of limited refuge for settlers living in the Patterson's Creek Valley. After the capture of Fort Duquesne, troops garrisoning the fort were gradually withdrawn. In a 1770 trip down Patterson's Creek George Washington pointed out the place where the fort had stood indicating it has fallen to nothing within 15 years.

Fort Pleasant, formerly known as Fort Van Meter and Town Fort and now known as the Isaac Van Meter House, is a historic site located near the unincorporated community of Old Fields about 5 miles north of Moorefield in Hardy County, West Virginia. Situated on the South Branch of the Potomac River, Colonel George Washington directed a fortification to be built there in 1756 during the escalating hostilities with Native Americans and French. The fierce skirmish

known as the Battle of the Trough occurred about a mile and a half away the same year. The Trough refers to a narrow valley of the South Branch of the Potomac River. The site now contains a Federal style house, built just after the American Revolution.

In 1756, at the outset of the French and Indian War, a large new fort and its supporting structures were erected on Isaac Van Meter's property by Captain Thomas Waggener under orders from Colonel George Washington. The fort was first known by the name of the Van Meter family, which had also assisted in its initial construction and maintenance. It was a substantial palisaded defense enclosing a blockhouse and log houses. Washington's written instructions indicated a quadrangular shape with 90-foot-long walls, bastions in the corners, barracks, and a powder magazine. Fort Pleasant was one in a chain of forts that ran along the frontier of the Allegheny Mountains and for a time it served as the local headquarters for the Virginia Regiment on the South Branch. It was never attacked directly by Native Americans but several raids occurred nearby. Soon after its construction, the Battle of the Trough (1756) took place a short distance to the north. In 1757, working unprotected in his fields, outside the fort, Isaac Van Meter was attacked, scalped, and killed by Native Americans of the Delaware and Shawnee tribes.

Existing frontier forts similar to Fort Cumberland

Fort Ligonier, PA – stockade Fort, 1.5 hours northwest of Cumberland.

The impressive Fort Ligonier is a full-scale, on-site reconstruction of the 1758-1766 original, featuring a blacksmith shop and dwelling, clay bake ovens, a hospital complex, sentry boxes, a Native American dwelling, artillery batteries and retrenchments. Other buildings such as soldier's barracks, officer's quarters, a quartermaster's storehouse, and a commissary, may be seen at the fort.

During the eight years of its existence as a garrison, Fort Ligonier was never taken by enemy action. Field Marshal John Ligonier was Lieutenant General of Ordnance at the time. The fort served as a post of passage to the new Fort Pitt, and during Pontiac's War of 1763, was a vital link in the British communication and supply lines. It was attacked twice and besieged by Native American forces, prior to the decisive victory at Bushy Run in August of that year. In March 1766, Arthur St. Clair was appointed civil caretaker, and Fort Ligonier was decommissioned from active service.

Careful research went into the casting, inscriptions and carriages of the field pieces, howitzers and mortars. Fort Ligonier features several cast bronze weapons including an eight-inch bronze howitzer and carriage, a light brass six pounder, and a field piece, which fired round shot, grape or canister. It is mounted on carriages with large wheels, in addition to gun sleighs and block carriages.

6-pounders were used on the battlefield for easy mobility. The gun fired solid iron round shot, and for close range, anti-personnel grape shot and case shot. An elevating screw raises and lowers the bronze barrel. The piece has a range of 2,000 yards.

A howitzer combines the features of a mortar with a field piece. A carriage with large wheels and short trail, it discharges a 5 1/2 inch exploding shell and can also fire anti-personnel case and grape shot.

Eight acres of the original site of Fort Ligonier were preserved, with the subsurface features restored and the above-ground elements reconstructed. The inner fort is 200 feet square, defended by four bastions and accessed by three gates. Inside is the officers' mess, barracks, quartermaster, guardroom, underground magazine, commissary, and officers' quarters. Immediately outside the fort is General Forbes's hut. An outer retrenchment, 1,600 feet long, surrounds the fort. Other external buildings include the hospital, a smokehouse, a saw mill, bake ovens, a log dwelling, and a forge.

There are examples of field guns and carriages, tumbrel carts, army wagons, powder carts, mortars, swivel guns, and a Conestoga wagon.

The west and east artillery gun batteries appear in all the original fort plans. They are integral parts of the retrenchment, although built slightly higher and wider, and are provided with embrasures for field pieces and howitzers.

Fort Pitt Museum, Pittsburgh, PA

Fort Pitt is the site of the previous Fort Duquesne, the target of the Braddock Expedition. Only a redoubt, a small brick outbuilding called the Blockhouse, remains in Point State Park as the only intact remnant of Fort Pitt. Erected in 1764, it is believed to be the oldest building still standing, not only in Pittsburgh, but west of the Appalachians. Used for many years as a private residence, the blockhouse was purchased and preserved for many years by the local chapter of the heritage society, Daughters of the American Revolution. During the American Revolutionary War, Fort Pitt served as a headquarters for the western theater of the war.

The city of Pittsburgh commissioned archaeological excavation of the foundations of Fort Pitt. Afterward, some of the fort was reconstructed to give visitors at Point Park a sense of the size of the fort. In this rebuilt section, the Fort Pitt Museum is housed in the Monongahela Bastion.

Fort Bedford

Fort Bedford, a fortified blockhouse, was constructed during the French and Indian War by British troops under the command of Colonel Henry Bouquet by order of General John Forbes. The fort was one of a string of British forts and blockhouses designed to protect British supply lines on the Forbes Road, a pioneer trail built by the British during their invasion of the Ohio Country and campaign against the French garrison at Fort Duquesne.

Braddock led a small invasion force launched from Western Maryland. His poorly defended lines of supply and communication were soon compromised. Forbes intended to launch a large invasion from eastern Pennsylvania by hacking a new pioneer wagon road over the Allegheny Mountains. His plan called for a string of forts and blockhouses to guard the supply road from hostile bands of Native Americans. After constructing Fort Juniata Crossing near present Breezewood, Pennsylvania, Colonel Bouquet began planning Fort Bedford as the next step towards the Ohio Country.

Bouquet chose a spot adjacent to the Juniata River west of a strategic gap in the mountains called "the narrows". Keeping with the overall plan, the new site was about one day's march from the

previous fort. After briefly being referred to simply as the "camp at Raystown" the new encampment was dubbed Fort Bedford in honor of the Duke of Bedford.

Bouquet searched the area for some time to find a site that was both defensible and had access to fresh water. Since he could find no spot in the area with both these characteristics, the builders placed the fort on a high spot and devised an innovative fortified elevated gallery that provided access to and water from the Juniata River. It is believed that Fort Bedford was the only fort ever constructed in America with this unique arrangement.

The exact location of the fort has been lost to history. Several archaeological digs have failed to yield any solid evidence of the fort's site. Using period documents, historians believe it was located somewhere along what is now East Pitt Street in the Borough of Bedford.

The fort was a star shaped fortress with five bastions, built of logs. The walls enclosed an area of approximately 1.45 acres. The main gate was located on the south side of the structure and was protected by an earthen rampart. The north side, which faced the river, featured the unique gallery to the riverbank. The non-river sides were protected by a ditch estimated at between 4 and 9 feet in depth.

As the French and Indian War wound down in the frontier, the fort's garrison was moved to other forts. Captain Lewis Ourry, in command of the fort at the outbreak of Pontiac's Rebellion, listed just twelve Royal Americans on his roster to guard the fort and more than 90 local families. Despite the weakness of the garrison, the fort was not directly attacked by native warriors. Instead they raided several local settlements and attacked supply trains bound for the fort, apparently hoping to starve out the garrison. The arrival of reinforcements under Colonel Bouquet in July 1763 ended most of the local raiding.

A reconstruction of the log blockhouse was built on the site in 1958 in honor of the fort's 200th anniversary. It is currently a museum operated by Bedford County.

Fort Necessity National Battlefield

Fort Necessity is a National Battlefield Site in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, which preserves elements of the Battle of Fort Necessity. The battle, which took place on July 3, 1754, was early in the French and Indian War, and resulted in the surrender of the British and Colonial forces, under Colonel George Washington, to the French and Native Americans, under Louis Coulon de Villiers.

The site also includes the Mount Washington Tavern, once one of the inns along the National Road, and the grave of the British General Edward Braddock, killed in 1755 and the site of the Battle of Jumonville Glen.

After returning to the Great Meadows in what is now Fayette County, Pennsylvania, George Washington decided it prudent to reinforce his position. Supposedly named by Washington as Fort Necessity or Fort of Necessity, the soldiers constructed a storehouse for supplies such as gunpowder, rum, and flour. The crude palisade they erected was built more to defend supplies in the fort's storehouse more from Washington's own men, whom he described as "loose and idle",

than as a planned defense against a hostile enemy. The sutler of Washington's force was John Fraser, who earlier had been second-in-command at Fort Prince George. Later he served as Chief Scout to General Edward Braddock and then Chief Teamster to the Forbes Expedition.

By June 12, 1754, Washington had under his command 293 colonials and the nominal command of 100 additional regular British army troops from South Carolina. Washington spent the remainder of June 1754 extending the Wilderness Road further west and down the western slopes of the Allegheny range into the valley of the Monongahela River. He wanted to create a river crossing point roughly 41 miles nearer Redstone Creek and Redstone Old Fort. This was a prehistoric Native American earthwork mound on a bluff overlooking the river crossing. The aboriginal mound structure may have once been part of a fortification. Five years later in the war, Fort Burd was constructed at Redstone Old Fort. The area eventually became the site of Nemacolin Castle and Brownsville, Pennsylvania, an important western jumping-off point for travelers' crossing the Alleghenies in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

To reach the Ohio River basins' navigable waters as soon as possible on the Monongahela River, Washington chose to follow Nemacolin's Trail, an ancient Native American trail which had been somewhat improved by colonists, with Nemacolin's help. He preferred this to following the ridge-hopping, high-altitude path traversed by the western part of Braddock's Road. It jogged to the north near the fort and passed over another notch near Confluence, Pennsylvania into the valley and drainage basin of the Allegheny River. The Redstone destination at the terminus of Nemacolin's Trail was a natural choice for an advanced base. The location was one of the few known good crossing points where both sides of the wide deep river had low accessible banks; steep sides were characteristic of the Monongahela River valley.

Late in the day on July 3, Washington did not know the French situation. Believing his situation was impossible, he accepted surrender terms which allowed the peaceful withdrawal of his forces, which he completed on July 4, 1754. The French subsequently occupied the fort and then burned it. Washington did not speak French, and stated later that if he had known that he was confessing to the "assassination" of Joseph Coulon de Jumonville, he would not have signed the surrender document.

Subsequent archaeological research helped to uncover the majority of the original fort position, shape and design. A replica of the fort was constructed on site in the 1970s. A new visitor center, which also is home to a National Road interpretive center, opened on October 8, 2005. The battlefield and fort are being improved. The fort replica is being reconstructed to look more historically accurate, new informative signs being added, and the historic tree lines and charge locations are being outlined.

On a hillside adjacent to the battlefield and within the boundaries of the park is Mount Washington Tavern, a classic example of the many inns' once lining the National Road, the United States' first federally funded highway. The land on which the tavern was built was originally owned by George Washington. In 1770 he purchased the site on which he had commanded his first battle.

The Other Forts Cumberland

The military fort at Cumberland, Maryland was not the only British structure to have that name. Fort Cumberland in England is near Portsmouth on the southern coast. From wikipedia, "Fort Cumberland is a pentagonal artillery fortification erected to guard the entrance to Langstone Harbor, east of the naval port of Portsmouth on the south coast of England. It was sited to protect the Royal Navy Dockyard, by preventing enemy forces from landing in Langstone Harbor and attacking from the landward side. Fort Cumberland is widely recognized as the finest example of a bastion trace fort in England. The first Fort was built by the Duke of Cumberland, and he had naming rights. It was in place by 1748. It was star-shaped, and built of earthwork. In 1785, a more modern defense structure was built of masonry, and enlarged. It was completed by 1812, and enclosed 24 acres. It later became the headquarters of the Royal Marine Artillery, and the smooth bore cannon were replaced by rifled guns. It was bombed in World War -2. It is now part of English Heritage.

Fort Cumberland in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canada, still exists as a museum. It was originally built by the French as Fort Beauséjour. Renamed after its capture by the British, it served in the Revolutionary War, was abandoned, but was garrisoned again by the British in the war of 1812.

There was an American attempt to take Fort Cumberland from the British, and make Nova Scotia the 14th American State. This was carried out by a small private army under Jonathan Eddy in August of 1776. The 170 men of his command did conduct a month's long siege against the British soldiers in the Fort, but Eddy had no cannon. With 400 new British troops arriving from Halifax by ship, the attack fell apart. Nova Scotia remained British, then became part of Canada.

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In the U. S., Copies are available at the Boston Public Library, the New York Public Library, the Rice University Fondren Library, University of Iowa Library, and Michigan State University

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